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### Deposited in DRO:

25 June 2009

### Version of attached file:

Published Version

### Peer-review status of attached file:

Peer-reviewed

### Citation for published item:

Price, J. (2004) 'Romano-British and early post-Roman glass vessels.', in Trethurgy : excavations at Trethurgy Round, St Austell : community and status in Roman and post-Roman Cornwall. Cornwall: Cornwall County Council, pp. 85-92.

### Further information on publisher's website:

<http://www.cornisharchaeology.org.uk/Trethurgy%20Flyer.pdf>

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## 4 Romano-British and early Post-Roman glass vessels and objects

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(text written 2001)

The excavations at Trethurgy produced 35 vessel fragments, five objects, and two pieces of window glass (Figs 51, 52). Of these, 27 vessel fragments, and the objects and window glass, were Roman, and six were certainly or probably early Post-Roman. Two Post-Medieval or modern fragments have not been studied.

### 4.1 Composition and dating of the glass assemblage

A minimum of seven vessels has been identified among the Roman glass, all of which are common finds in settlements in Britain in the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. One is a good-quality colourless bowl or flask with abraded decoration (Gl 3/4), and the others are more ordinary bluish-green or greenish colourless vessels. One may be a drinking vessel (Gl 5) and the others, a jar (Gl 6) and at least four prismatic bottles and flasks (Gl 11/14, 15, 16, and 17), are household containers. The five objects, a finger ring and four beads (nos 18-22), are late Roman forms in use in Britain during the 4th century, and matt-glossy window glass (Gl 23/24) is found in many military and civil settlements from the 1st to late 3rd century.

The early Post-Roman fragments include two examples of pale yellow and yellowish-green decorated tablewares, a conical beaker with opaque white trails (Gl 1) and a conical bowl with abraded zones of motifs (Gl 2) which are comparable with vessels found at other settlements in western Britain in the 5th-7th centuries AD. The remaining pieces (Gl 7-10) which represent at least three closed vessels, probably flasks or unguent bottles, are more problematic. The glass colour, bluish-green with a grey tinge, is unlikely to be Romano-British and is rare in the early Post-Roman period. It has been difficult to find similar examples in settlements in western Britain although the find contexts indicate that they were deposited in the late Roman or early Post-Roman period, and they may be of more recent date.

### 4.2 Supply and use of glass

In total, a minimum of twelve vessels have been identified and assigned to the Roman and Post-Roman phases of occupation in the settlement. There are, however, considerable differences in the patterns of supply and use.

The Roman material indicates a very limited use of glass vessels. One possible drinking vessel (Gl 5) has been recognised, but with the exception of that and

the colourless bowl or flask (Gl 3/4) and perhaps the jar (Gl 6), there is no evidence for the presence of glass tablewares. The remaining vessels reached Trethurgy because they were containers for foodstuffs, unguents, or medical preparations. Moreover, this glass reached the settlement over a fairly short period, probably only in the 2nd or early 3rd century.

To set this pattern of consumption in a wider context, it should be noted that a wide variety of glass vessels for serving and consuming food and liquid, such as beakers, bowls, cups, jars, and jugs, as well as containers and transport vessels, such as bottles, flasks, jars, and unguent bottles, were in use in Britain by the 2nd century AD. Some were probably imported, chiefly from elsewhere in the north-west provinces, and some were produced locally, in the glass workshops in or close to Romano-British towns and military establishments. However, the patterns of use of glass vary greatly between settlements of different status and in different geographical regions. Towns and legionary fortresses often have the widest range of forms (eg Cool and Price 1995, fig 13.3-4 for the forms present in Colchester between c AD 100 and c AD 230), while auxiliary forts and most rural settlements have much more limited assemblages.

Exeter, the Romano-British town closest to Trethurgy, shows a pattern of glass use comparable with other urban settlements in southern Britain during the 2nd/early 3rd century, although the quantity recorded is not very large, but other settlements in the South West have produced very few fragments. Patterns of use similar to or even more limited than that at Trethurgy have been recorded at rural sites elsewhere in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, such as Carvossa (Harden 1987), Kilhallon (Price 1982), Reawla (Adkins and Adkins 1992), Nornour (Charlesworth 1968), Halangy Down (Ashbee 1996, 73), and Penhale Round (Quinnell 1998/9) and this pattern is replicated at equivalent settlements at the margins of the Roman province in other parts of Britain, as in the northern frontier region (Ingemark 2000). It is arguable that the apparent dearth of glass may be misleading as the broken glass could have been recycled, but there is no evidence at Trethurgy for the production of glass objects, and it is perhaps more probable that little glass other than containers was available for supply to the settlement or that the inhabitants had a way of life which did not involve the acquisition of glass drinking vessels and other tablewares.

Small personal ornaments were readily portable items and the scatter of trinkets reaching the site towards the end of the Roman period presumably arrived through local trading networks in the South West. On the other hand, the presence of two fragments of window glass is interesting. Not only does this point to the existence of at least one building with a glazed window but it also raises questions about the origin of the pane as the risks of transporting a sheet of flat glass would have been considerable.

By contrast with the Roman period of occupation, when the glass reaching Trethurgy is likely to have been supplied by road from centres in southern Britain, the glass vessels of the early Post-Roman period indicate that the settlement, like others in Cornwall such as Tintagel (Harden 1956a, 70; Price 1982; Ewan Campbell *pers comm*) and perhaps Grambla (Saunders 1972) and Reawla (Adkins and Adkins 1992), was linked to the sea-borne trading networks between western Britain, continental Europe, and the Mediterranean region. At this time the inhabitants had access to high status imported tablewares comparable with those found at Dinas Powys (Harden 1963), Cadbury Congresbury (Price 1992), Cadbury Castle (Price and Cottam 1995), Whithorn (Campbell 1997), and other sites in western Britain.

### 4.3 Distribution of glass within the site

The distribution of the Romano-British vessel glass is concentrated in the midden in Structure U, conforming to the concentrations of other groups of artefacts on the site. Five of the seven vessels (Gl 3/4, 5, 6, 11/12, and 15) were found there, where they had presumably been deposited after the Structure had gone out of use. Two fragments from Houses T (Gl 13) and Z (Gl 14) also appear to come from one of the vessels (Gl 11/12) noted in Structure U, and House Z and the north Ditch terminal produced the remaining two vessels (Gl 16, 17).

The rest of the glass finds were more widely dispersed, and none came from Structure U. Among the objects, the finger ring (Gl 18) and the cubic square-sectioned bead (Gl 22) were found in House Z, and the other beads in soil over Structure E (Gl 21), beneath Structure V (Gl 19) and in soil in Area R (Gl 20). The two joining window glass fragments (Gl 23/24) came from House A and the Entrance, and the Post-Roman vessel fragments were found in House A (Gl 1, 8), Structure G (Gl 9), House T (Gl 2, 10), and House Z (Gl 7).

### 4.4 The Romano-British vessel glass

Four colourless convex body fragments, two with linear abraded decoration (Gl 3/4), were found in the midden, and the drain above the midden, in Structure

U in contexts dated to the last quarter of the 4th century and first half of the 5th century. They were very similar in quality and form, and it is likely that they come from a single vessel, which was probably a convex bowl or flask, though it is not possible to identify the precise form from the surviving pieces. Convex colourless bowls and cups with wheel-cut and sometimes abraded linear decoration are found in Britain in mid and later 2nd-century contexts (Price and Cottam 1998a, 96-9, 124-6), although most of these were made in glass with fewer bubbles than the Trethurgy fragments. Fragments from colourless drinking vessels with wheel-cut and abraded lines have been found at Exeter (Charlesworth 1979, 224, nos 9-11, fig 70; Allen 1991, 227, nos 41-3, fig 95) and elsewhere in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, at Reawla (Adkins and Adkins 1992, 113, no 2) and at Halangy Down (Ashbee 1996, 73).

Abraded linear decoration is also found on cups and bowls in the 3rd and early 4th centuries, but many of these are made in greenish colourless rather than clear colourless glass. Another possible form is the convex-bodied flask with either a cylindrical neck or funnel mouth which was made in colourless and greenish colourless glass and has been recorded in 3rd-century and later contexts (Price and Cottam 1998a, 181-4). A cylindrical neck fragment, from a colourless convex-bodied flask or a bottle, is known in Exeter (Allen 1991, 228, no 58, fig 96).

The one possible bluish-green drinking vessel, Gl 5, came from the lower part of midden [932] in Structure U, a context dated to the last quarter of the 4th century. The piece is too small for any identification to be certain though it appears to come from a narrow straight-sided vessel, perhaps a cylindrical or conical beaker, and the colour, the thickness of the wall, and the absence of bubbles in the glass suggest that it belongs to the 1st to early 3rd century rather than later, but close parallels are scarce. It may belong to a small cylindrical cup with fire-rounded rim and tubular base ring. These were produced in large numbers in the later 2nd and early 3rd century, usually in colourless glass though some bluish-green examples are also known (Price and Cottam 1998a, 99-101). Colourless and bluish-green examples have been found in Exeter (Charlesworth 1979, 224, nos 19-20, fig 70; Allen 1991, 222, no 16, 227, nos 48-50, figs 94-5) and there is a colourless rim fragment from Kilhallon, Tywardreath (Price 1982, 163, no 1, fig 6).

Gl 6, which also came from midden [932] in Structure U in a context dated to the last quarter of the 4th century, is from a jar with a collar rim, although too little has survived for either the rim diameter or the shape of the body to be determined. Jars with vertical rims folded out and down to form a collar and either a square-sectioned body or a convex



body are well known in the north-west provinces in the 1st and 2nd centuries AD and they were almost certainly produced in the region. They are common finds at settlements and in burials, as at Colchester (Cool and Price 1995, 106-9), Exeter (Charlesworth 1979, 227, nos 23-4, fig 70), and elsewhere in Britain (see Price and Cottam 1998a, 135-8, for discussion of these forms). Some of the examples with convex bodies are brightly coloured, but others are bluish-green, as are all the examples with square bodies. It is rather surprising that about two centuries appear to have elapsed between the production of this vessel and its deposition in the midden at Trethurgy, especially as the surviving fragment shows little signs of wear associated with long usage, except on the edge of the rim. However the quantity of 2nd-century samian in the midden, and the trend towards long periods of curation evidenced by 'status' artefacts in the Round, should be kept in mind (Section 5.3.1).

A minimum of three bluish-green prismatic bottles have been identified. The greatest quantity of fragments came from midden [932/801] in Structure U, where 15 pieces are so similar that they are likely to come from one specimen (Gl 11/12) which has a narrow neck, approximately 40mm in diameter, and a side approximately 75-80mm wide. Three other pieces, from the floor in House T2 (Gl 13), the drain in House Z1 (Gl 14), and unstratified, may also belong to this bottle. The other prismatic vessels are each represented by one body fragment; Gl 15, which was found in the midden in structure U, is noticeably thicker than the equivalent fragments from the first example, and Gl 16, from the late accumulation over the north terminal of the Ditch, appears to come from a much more substantial bottle than either of the others.

Square and other prismatic bottles were produced as transport vessels and containers for liquid and semi-liquid foodstuffs. They are extremely common throughout the western provinces from the middle of the 1st to the end of the 2nd century AD, and are found in virtually all settlements in Britain (see Cool and Price 1995, 179-99, and Price and Cottam 1998a, 194-202 for details of the production and distribution of prismatic bottles). These bottles frequently account for more than 50% of the vessel glass assemblages in towns and forts and are sometimes the only vessel glass found on rural sites.

Unsurprisingly, large numbers of fragments of prismatic (square, hexagonal) and cylindrical bottles have been noted at Exeter (Harden 1952, 93, no 6; Charlesworth 1979, 227-8, nos 25-9, fig 71; Allen 1991, 224-6, no 31, fig 94), and cylindrical as well as square examples were noted at Carvossa (Harden 1987, 130, nos 97, 112, 121), but otherwise, only

prismatic bottles have been recorded in Cornwall, at Kilhallon (Price 1982, 164, nos 7-8), Tintagel (Ewan Campbell pers comm) and Penhale Round (Quinnell 1998/9, 85, fig 8). These vessels disappear soon after the end of the 2nd century, so the presence of a substantial part of an unworn bottle in midden deposits dated to the last quarter of the 4th century is remarkable. There are a few parallels for the late use of square bottles in the western provinces, as in Grave 1314 at Krefeld Gellep which contained a coin of Trebonianus Gallus (AD 251-253) (Pirling 1974, 19-20, nos 9-10, pl 20). However, if Gl 13/14 are indeed parts of the same vessel as Gl 11/12, the problem of the late date may largely be resolved, as these pieces came from 3rd to early 4th-century contexts.

The last Romano-British vessel (Gl 17), which is greenish colourless with a prismatic body, is represented by a body fragment from pit [818] in House Z1b assigned to Stage 4 (AD 275-325). The colour indicates that this is unlikely to be an ordinary prismatic bottle, and it may come from a square-sectioned flask with thick walls known as a Mercury flask. They are found in the north-west provinces in the late 2nd and early 3rd century, and occur in burials and on settlements in Britain, though much less frequently than bluish-green bottles (see Cool and Price 1995, 152-3, and Price and Cottam 1998a, 179-181 for discussion of the form).

## 4.5 Early Post-Roman vessel glass

The body fragment, Gl 1, was found in drainage gully [100] around House A2, tentatively dated to c AD 400-500. It is a vessel of good quality, and the pale yellow colour and opaque white decoration indicate that it was almost certainly a conical beaker with fire-rounded rim and small rounded base. The fragment is too small for all elements of the decorative scheme to be certain, but they are likely to have included a closely wound fine spiral trail below the rim as well as broader trails dragged down to form loops on the body.

Vessels of this kind have been recorded at numerous settlements in western Britain and Ireland (see Campbell 2000, 39-43, Group D, for a recent survey). Other finds in the south-west peninsula include a fragment from Tintagel (Price 1987, 26, fig 8) and two other possible pieces, a pale yellow undecorated body fragment from Grambla (unpubl) and a blue rim fragment now lacking the opaque white spiral trail at Reawla (Adkins and Adkins 1992, 113, no 1, fig 23). In the Bristol Channel, similar pieces are known at Cannington (Price 2000a, 307-8, nos 105, 110, 114, 124, fig 206), Cadbury Congresbury (Price 1992, 141-3, nos 20-33, figs 97-8) and Dinas Powys (Harden 1963, 182-4, nos 24-30, 32-5, 47-93, fig 40), and others are known on sites along the South Wales

coast and as far north as south-west Scotland. Many settlements have produced only one or two small fragments, but pieces of these beakers have also been found in larger numbers, and some, such as Cadbury Congresbury, Dinas Powys, and Whithorn (Campbell 1997; 2000) have produced reconstructable vessels, so it is no longer acceptable to discuss this glass as imported scrap.

Campbell (2000, 43-4) has pointed out that there are very close similarities between the Group D beakers found in western Britain and 6th-century and later finds in Aquitaine, particularly in and near Bordeaux (cf Foy and Hochuli-Gysel 1995, 163-5), which suggests that the British material has its origins in south-western France. He argues that the main phase of importation of these beakers is the 6th century. If the context of the Trethurgy fragment, drainage gully [100], is really related to House A2, dated within the 5th century, this would be noteworthy. However the presence of Gl 1 in the gully raises the possibility that the gully could have been open contemporary with House A3, dated to the 6th century; it should also be noted that the gully cannot be regarded as securely sealed.

The second tableware fragment, Gl 2, was found in abandonment phase [400] deposits over Structure T5, which are dated to the 6th or 7th century. It comes from the lower body of a yellowish-green truncated conical bowl; the complete vessel would have had a fire-rounded rim and a small concave base with a pontil mark (Price 2000b, 24-6). Vessels of this form are not present in late Romano-British contexts, but they are commonly found in Belgium, northern France, Aquitaine, southern France, Spain, and Portugal in the 5th and 6th centuries. Some undecorated, trailed, and mould-blown versions have been recorded in Saxon graves in south-east England, and undecorated and trailed examples belonging to different production traditions occur at settlements in western Britain, such as Tintagel (Ewan Campbell per comm), Cannington (Price 2000a, 308, no 111, fig 206), Cadbury Congresbury (Price 1992, 143, nos 34-8, fig 98), Dinas Powys (Harden 1963, 183-4, nos 31, 38, 42, 46, fig 40), Cadbury Castle (Price and Cottam 1995, 102, Gl 19-20, ill 7.1), and Whithorn (Campbell 1997, 307, nos 6-8, 48-50, figs 10.2, 10.8).

The decoration on the Trethurgy bowl is unusual and distinctive. Parts of two horizontal rows of wheel-abraded or scratched decoration, with herringbone motifs above circular rings survive, and the intact vessel would presumably have had at least one more row below the rim. Its closest parallel is a fragment preserving the complete section of the bowl from an Anglo-Saxon burial at Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire (Price 2000b, 24, fig 9.3, pl 7). This

also has a row of rings above the base, a middle row containing a bird with a long tail, perhaps a peacock, and plants and other motifs, and a top row containing the letters ...S E M P E R... . An interesting point of detail is that the inscription is in retrograde, and thus was intended to be seen and read by the person looking inside from above, which implies that the bowl may have functioned as a drinking vessel. Fragments of two bowls with similar decoration are also known from Whithorn; one is greenish colourless with an abraded feature, perhaps a letter, below the rim, and the other is a pale yellow body fragment which appears to have a row of rings above the base, a middle row of running S-scrolls and part of an inscription (Campbell 1997, 300, nos 1, 3, fig 10.4).

Outside Britain, few examples of conical bowls with wheel-abraded decoration have been noted. One from Conimbriga in Portugal is nearly colourless and has two letters, perhaps ..A V .., below the rim (Alarcão *et al* 1976, 203, no 245, pls 44, 48). The other, without provenance, is pale green with a self-coloured spiral trail below the rim, a horizontal branch and floral frieze, and a row of herringbone motifs on the body and an eight-pointed star on the base (unpubl; British Museum GR 1970.6-3.1). Wheel-abraded motifs also occur on several other vessel forms in the Mediterranean region in the 5th-6th centuries (Price 2000b, 26), and small body fragments have occasionally been found in Britain, at Cadbury Congresbury (Price 1992, 139, nos 10-11, fig 97), Whithorn (Campbell 1997, 300, nos 2, 4-5, fig 10.4), and Traprain Law (unpubl).

Although conical bowls with wheel-abraded decoration have rarely been found in closely dated contexts, they are assumed to be more or less contemporary with other wheel-abraded vessels, and thus to belong to the 5th and 6th centuries. There is little doubt that they reached Britain from the Mediterranean region, and the distribution of the vessel form argues that they were produced somewhere in the western provinces, either in southern France or more probably in the Iberian peninsula.

As already indicated, Gl 7-10, the three closed vessels from 5th and 6th century — and in the case of Gl 10 probably early 4th-century — deposits, are difficult to set in context. The similarity of the colour and quality of Gl 8 and 9 suggest that they probably come from the same vessel, which may be a flask or jug, Gl 7 is also likely to be from a similar form or jug, and Gl 10, which has a very narrow body may be an unguent bottle. These are not common early Post-Roman forms, and the particular shade of bluish-green glass is also most unusual. Two yellowish-green convex-bodied vessels with necks are known at Tintagel (Price 1987, 25, no 8; Ewan Campbell per



comm) but have not been recognised on other sites in western Britain, and the only other fragments which have features in common with the Trethurgy pieces are a small yellow concave base with a high central kick and pontil mark found at Whithorn which may come from a flask or small bottle (Campbell 1997, 309, no 64, fig 10.8) and a fragmentary small pale-green flask with a high kicked base and pontil mark from Llanelen, Gower (Campbell 1996, 127-8, fig 15a). Elsewhere in western Europe, small flasks with globular bodies have been noted in early 5th-century contexts in southern France (Foy 1995a, 195-6, nos 33-4, pl 6) and in 5th to 7th-century contexts in Italy (Sternini 1995, 260, 262, figs 18.33, 20.58), and a variety of flasks and jugs are known in 5th to 7th-century contexts in Spain (Gamo Parras 1995, 302-5, figs 1.1-3, 2.1-2, 3.1-5). Nonetheless, there is some uncertainty about these vessels, and it is possible that they could be of Post-Medieval date. None of the contexts from which they come can be regarded as securely sealed.

## 4.6 Objects and window glass

The ring fragment (Gl 18), which comes from the undecorated, plano-convex hoop which expands out towards the (missing) bezel, was found in a late 3rd to early 4th, or late 4th to early 5th-century context. No exact parallel for this piece is known, but apparently black glass finger rings, made in dark-green, yellowish-green or deep yellowish-brown glass, have been recorded in several Romano-British settlements. Examples are known from Exeter (Charlesworth 1979, 230 no 44, fig 71), Poundbury, Dorchester (Charlesworth and Price 1987, 109, no 9, fig 78), Great Witcombe villa, Gloucestershire (Price and Cottam 1998b, 91, nos 3-4, fig 26), Birdoswald (Price and Cottam 1997, 283, no 85, fig 193), and elsewhere. Almost all these rings appear to come from late deposits, and they were probably in circulation in the late 4th century. A recent survey of objects in use at the end of Roman Britain has included black finger rings (in glass and jet) as part of an assemblage of items which became popular towards the end of the 4th century and may have continued in use into the 5th century (Cool 2000, 50-6).

The three small globular beads, two translucent dark blue and one opaque blue (Gl 19-21), were found in 4th-century and later contexts. There is no evidence that these have been broken from wound segmented beads (Guido 1978, 91-3, fig 37, nos 1-2); the perforation areas are rounded and one end is slightly widened and distorted on each bead which suggests that they were made as wound globular beads. Guido (1978, 70, 169-72, Group 7iv) points out that these appear in the Late Iron Age-early Roman period,

but many occur in late-Roman deposits, both in settlements and burials. A necklace from a context dated to c AD 380 or later in Room 14 at Great Witcombe villa consisted of 17 glass beads threaded on copper alloy links, including nine globular examples, six dark-blue and three opaque white, which were probably also made individually (rather than broken from segmented beads as stated in that report: Price and Cottam 1998b, 83-4, no 7, fig 23). Similar beads were found in the late-Roman settlement, the grave fills, and the Post-Roman settlement at Poundbury, Dorchester (Guido 1987, mf2 F6-7, nos 3-4, 15), and in Graves 100, 188, 199, 336, and 337 at Lankhills, Winchester (Guido 1979, 298-300). Single opaque blue and 'appearing black' examples were noted in Exeter (Charlesworth 1979, 230, no 47, fig 71; Allen 1991, 229, no 73, fig 96) and others in translucent dark-blue came from Nornour (Guido 1968, 27, no 62) and Halangy Down (Ashbee 1996, 72, no 2, fig 34.1).

The cube-shaped square-sectioned bead, Gl 22, was made in cloudy, almost opaque dark blue glass, though dark-green examples are also known. These beads occur in late-Roman contexts both in settlements and in burials. Seven blue examples came from Birdoswald, all but one in contexts postdating c AD 350 (Price and Cottam 1997, 273-5, nos 38-44, fig 185), four were recorded at Frocester Court, Gloucestershire in late 3rd, 4th-century and Post-Roman contexts (Price 2000c, 119, nos 105-7), two are known at Great Witcombe, one of which was part of the necklace mentioned above (Price and Cottam 1998b, 83-4, nos 7, 13, fig 23), and others formed part of late 4th-century necklaces at Lankhills, Winchester, and Poundbury, Dorchester (Guido 1978, 96, 212-5, fig 35, no 6).

The window glass fragments, Gl 23/4, come from one greenish matt-glossy pane which was made by pouring glass onto a flat surface and manipulating it into a rectangular shape (Mark Taylor and David Hill pers comm). Matt-glossy window glass was produced from the early 1st to around the late 3rd century, and was then replaced by cylinder-blown panes which were glossy on both surfaces, although some of the earlier panes continued in use into the 4th century, as in the Commandants House at South Shields fort (unpubl). Matt-glossy window glass was used in most military, urban, and high-status rural settlements, especially in the hot rooms of bath-houses and in residential buildings, where it served both to let light in and to keep heat in, but probably not to look through. In this connection, it is noteworthy that excavations in the legionary bath-house and basilica and forum in Exeter produced a large quantity of window glass (Charlesworth 1979, 229-30) but much less was found in other parts of the town (Allen 1991, 229). The

panes were either set into wooden or metal frames and then inserted into the apertures or were fitted directly into the apertures secured with mortar; one of the fragments found in the bath-house, and basilica and forum retained a trace of mortar.

The presence of window glass, the first to be found in Roman Cornwall, is much more remarkable in a settlement such as Trethurgy where there was no sustained tradition of rectilinear buildings. Whether the large rectilinear timber structure House X1, dated to Stages 1-2 in the late 2nd century, is relevant here cannot be ascertained. It is just possible that one of the oval houses could have incorporated a small window, especially in the straighter long sides which are a feature of these houses in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. No information about the method of fixing the Trethurgy pane has survived and it is difficult to establish its original function, but the sharpness of the broken edges and the general lack of wear suggest that the fragments were not moved about very much after breakage and argue for their use on the site rather than importation as cullet. There is little evidence for the use of window glass in settlements of this kind, though a few instances have been noted, as at Traprain Law in lowland Scotland (Ingemark 2000, 176), Cadbury Congresbury in Somerset (Price 1992, 138), and at Stanwick in North Yorkshire, where six matt-glossy fragments were found in the topsoil above a 1st-century roundhouse, but whether they come from the early house or from a later, as yet unidentified building

nearby, is unknown (Colin Haselgrove and Pam Lowther pers comm).

## 4.7 Glass Catalogue

### 4.7.1 Vessels

#### Fig 51

#### Polychrome

GI 1 [100], BN 109, SF9, House A2, late drainage gully. ?Stages 7-8 AD 400-500 (but possibly earlier, see above). Body fragment, beaker. Pale yellow and opaque white. Straight side tapering in. Horizontal opaque white trail dragged down to form a loop, side slightly indented at point of loop. Few bubbles and black specks, otherwise good quality. No visible weathering, light scratches on outside surface. Present height 29.5mm. Thickness 1.2mm.

#### Incised Decoration

GI 2 [400], BN 704, SF16, soil over Structure T5/6, period of abandonment. Stages 9/10 AD 500+, more likely to be 600+. Body fragment, bowl. Pale yellowish-green. Straight side, lower body tapering in, curving towards base edge. Two horizontal zones of abraded decoration; short diagonal lines arranged in herringbone pattern above small circular rings. Scatters of small bubbles, otherwise good quality. No visible weathering or wear marks. Present height c 21mm. Dimensions 37.5x33mm. Thickness 1.5-2.5mm.

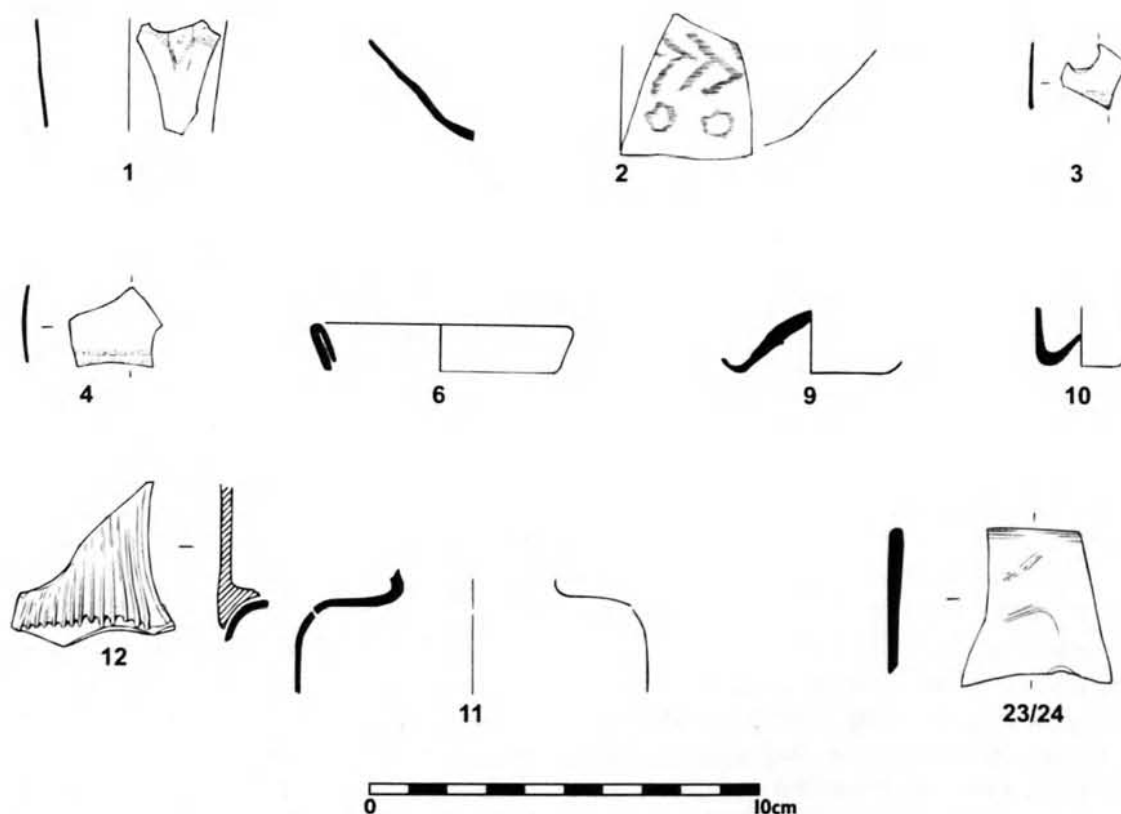


Fig 51: Glass vessels and window glass. Drawing Y Beadnall. Scale 1:2

**GI 3** [535], BN 268, Structure U2 drain. Stages 7/8 AD 400/500, but not well sealed. Body fragment from bowl or flask? Colourless. Wide convex side. Horizontal narrow and broad bands of abraded lines. Scatters of small bubbles. Dull. No wear marks. Dimensions 16.5x16mm. Thickness 1mm.

**GI 4** [801], BN 392, Structure U, upper part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Body fragment from bowl or flask? Colourless. Wide convex side. Horizontal narrow and broad bands of abraded lines. Scattered small bubbles. No visible weathering or wear marks. Dimensions 20.5x23mm. Thickness 1mm.

Also two undecorated body fragments: (a) [801], BN 620, Structure U upper part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Wide convex lower body fragment. Colourless. Scattered small bubbles, as BN 392. No visible weathering or wear marks. Dimensions 25x23mm. Thickness 1.2-1.5mm. (b) [932], BN 908, Structure U upper part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Convex body fragment. Colourless. Small bubbles, as BN 392 and BN 620. Slightly dull. No wear marks. Dimensions 13x10mm. Thickness 1mm

### *Bluish-green*

**GI 5** [932], BN 859, Structure U; lower part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Body fragment, ?beaker. Bluish-green. Straight side, probably tapering in. Outside surface slightly uneven. No bubbles. No visible weathering. Dimensions 22.5x8mm. Thickness 1.5mm.

**GI 6** [932], BN 908, Structure U; lower part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Fragment of collar rim, jar. Bluish-green. Vertical rim, edge fire-rounded and bent out and down. Good quality, no bubbles. No visible weathering. Some wear on rim edge. Present height 12.5mm. Rim diameter c 65mm. Thickness 1.5mm.

**GI 7** [723], BN 297, House Z2 rubble collapse, not sealed. Stage 9 AD 500+. Neck fragment, flask or jug? Bluish-green with grey tinge. Cylindrical neck. Outside surface slightly uneven. Elongated bubbles throughout. No visible weathering. No wear. Dimensions 27x19.5mm. Thickness 2.3-3.3mm.

**GI 8** [34], BN 588, infill between House A2 and A3. Stage 8 AD 450-500. Neck fragment, flask or jug? Bluish-green with grey tinge. Cylindrical neck curving out slightly towards rim or body. Outside surface slightly uneven. Small elongated bubbles. No visible weathering. No wear. Dimensions 28.5x16mm. Thickness 1mm.

**GI 9** [77], BN 29, Structure G; upper fill. Stage 9 AD 500+ (not really sealed). Base fragment, beaker or flask? Bluish-green with grey tinge. Lower body tapering in, high pointed concave base. Pontil mark. Pimpled surface on edge of underside of base. Small

bubbles. No visible weathering. Wear scratches on inside surface. Present height 17mm. Base diameter c 45mm. Thickness of lower body 1.2mm.

**GI 10** [36], BN 216, platform adjacent House T3. Stage 4 and later AD 260-325+. Body and base fragment, flask or unguent bottle. Bluish-green with grey tinge. Narrow cylindrical body, small, high, pointed concave base. Pontil mark on base edge. Small bubbles. No visible weathering. Wear scratches on outside surface, patches of wear on base edge. Present height 15.5mm. Body diameter 23.5mm. Thickness of body 1.5-2.5mm.

### *Bottles*

**GI 11** [932], BN 925, Structure U, lower part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Twelve fragments, several joining, from neck, shoulder, and body of square bottle. Base of cylindrical neck with tooling marks, horizontal shoulder, parts of at least one flat side with 90° angles. No visible weathering; very clear, good-quality glass; mould marking on body fragments, clockwise spiral movement in glass visible on shoulder, probably from blowing body into mould. No wear marks. Neck diameter c 40mm. Width of shoulder c 18mm. Present height of largest piece 40mm. Width of body c 75-80mm. Thickness of body 1-3mm.

**GI 12** [800], BN 348, soil over Structure U, mainly disturbed top of midden. Not assigned to Stage. Shoulder and handle fragment, prismatic bottle, as BN 925. Curved shoulder and small part of vertical side, broad, straight, reeded handle applied to edge of shoulder. No visible weathering; shoulder and body made in clear, good-quality glass, small bubbles and black specks in handle. No wear marks. Present height 41mm. Maximum width of handle 41.5mm. Thickness (shoulder) 2.25mm, (body) 1.5mm.

Also three similar fragments: (a) [932], BN 908, Structure U; lower part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Body fragment, prismatic bottle, as BN 925 and BN 348. Flat side. Mould marking on outer surface. Good-quality glass. No visible weathering. No wear marks. Dimensions 30.5x18mm. Thickness 1.2-1.8mm. (b) [800], BN 575, soil over Structure U, mainly disturbed top of midden. Not assigned to Stage. Body fragment, prismatic bottle, as BN 925, 348 and 908. Flat side. Mould marking on outer surface. Good-quality glass. No visible weathering. No wear marks. Dimensions 11.5x5mm. Thickness 1.5mm. (c) Unstratified, BN 929. Body fragment, prismatic bottle, as BN 925, 348, 908 and 575. Flat side. Mould marking on outside surface. Good-quality glass. No visible weathering. No wear marks. Dimensions 22.5x21.5mm. Thickness 2-2.5mm.

**GI 13** [442], BN 727, House T2, soil on floor. Stage 3 AD 210-260. Body fragment, ?prismatic bottle.



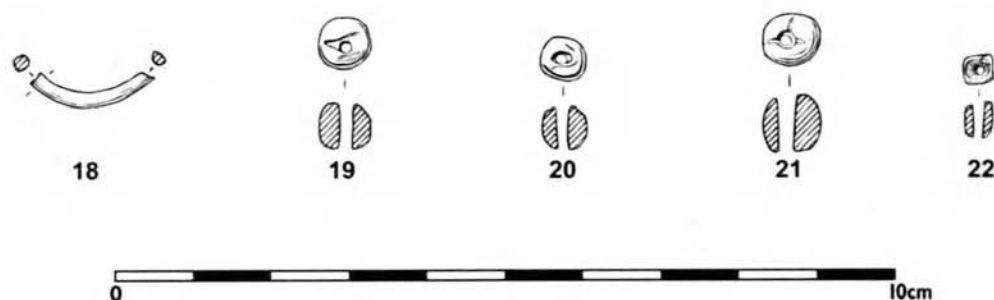


Fig 52: Glass objects. Drawing Y Beadnall. Full size

Bluish-green. Flat side. Good-quality glass, dimpled outside surface. No visible weathering. No wear marks. Dimensions 11.5x18mm. Thickness 1.5-2mm.

**GI 14** [852], BN 426, House Z1, drain. Probably sealed in Stage 4 AD 260-325. Upper body fragment, prismatic bottle. Edge of shoulder, flat side. Good-quality glass, small bubbles. No visible weathering. No wear marks. Dimensions 20x26.5mm. Thickness 1mm.

**GI 15** [801], BN 614, Structure U, upper part of midden. Stage 6 AD 375-400. Body fragment, prismatic bottle. Part of flat side. No visible weathering, pronounced mould marks on outer surface. Some usage scratches. Dimensions 22x16mm. Thickness 2-3mm.

**GI 16** [523], BN 118, soil over cobbles [521], north terminal of Ditch. Stage 9+ AD 500+. Body fragment, ? prismatic bottle. Pale bluish-green. Slightly concave side, apparently distorted by heat. Small bubbles. Dull, outside surface dimpled. Dimensions 10x24mm. Thickness 5mm.

**GI 17** [818], BN 432, House Z1b, pit. Stage 4 AD 260-325. Body fragment, prismatic bottle. Greenish colourless. Flat side. Small bubbles throughout. Dull, surfaces scratched. Dimensions 22x10mm. Thickness 2.5mm.

#### 4.7.2 Objects

##### Fig 52

**GI 18** [793], BN 394, SF 109, cut for wall of House Z2. Stage 6 AD 375-400 or just possibly Stage 4 AD 260-325. Finger ring. Dark yellowish-green, appearing black. Fragment of D-sectioned ring, expanded at one end. Some wear on outside surface. Length of fragment 15.5mm. Internal diameter approximately 14mm. Height 2mm. Width 3-3.3mm.

**GI 19** [557], BN 709, SF 153, cobbling predating Structure V1. Stage 5 AD 325-375. Bead. Dark blue. Intact globular bead with flattened areas on the outside surface. Small perforation, widened at one end. Probably wound. No visible weathering. Height 6mm. Maximum width 7mm. Perforation 2-4mm.

**GI 20** [9], BN 710, SF 14, Area R soil accumulation between Stages 4 and 5 c AD 325. Bead. Opaque blue. Intact globular bead. Small perforation, widened at one end. Probably wound. Height 5mm. Maximum width 6.3mm. Perforation 1.5-4mm.

**GI 21** [11], BN 5, topsoil over Area E. Stage 9 AD 500+. Bead. Dark blue. Two joining fragments, complete globular bead. Small perforation, widened at one end. Probably wound. Height 7.4mm. Maximum width 7mm. Perforation 2-4mm.

**GI 22** [723], BN 271, collapse of House Z2. Stage 9 AD 500 onward. Bead. Dark blue. Intact square-sectioned bead. Small perforation, widened at one end. Probably wound and flattened. Height 4.4mm. Width 3.5mm. Perforation 1-3mm.

#### 4.7.3 Window glass

##### Fig 51

**GI 23** [34], BN 64, joins [111], BN227, infill between Houses A2 and A3. Stage 8 AD 450-500. Edge fragment, cast window pane. Greenish. Thick rounded edge, top surface shiny and uneven, with two pressure points, bottom surface flat and dull, with dimples. Little visible weathering, some wear scratches on top surface, very worn on rounded edge. Dimensions 38x32.5mm. Thickness 2.4-4.2mm.

**GI 24** [111], BN 227, joins [34], BN 64, Entrance surface, later level. Stage 5 AD 325+, but not sealed. Fragment, cast window pane. Greenish. Top surface shiny, bottom surface flat, and dull with dimples. Little visible weathering, some wear scratches on top surface. Dimensions 15x17mm. Thickness 2-2.5mm.